

**State of California
Department of Parks and Recreation
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
1416 Ninth Street
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

PROJECT TITLE: Remove Non-Native Trees and Shrubs within Folsom Lake State Recreation Area

LOCATION: Areas throughout Folsom Lake State Recreation Area

COUNTY: Sacramento, Placer, and El Dorado

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

Treat infestations of *Ailanthus altissima* (tree of heaven [TOH]), *Sesbania punicea* (red sesbania), privet and other non-native trees and shrubs. Treatment areas are mapped using a GIS to monitor effectiveness. TOH and sesbania are highly invasive exotic species. Privet and other non-natives are less invasive but usurp wildlife habitat. Elderberry shrubs, the host plant of the federally threatened valley elderberry long-horned beetle (VELB), occur in the park. No treatment will occur within 100 feet of any elderberry shrub in the spring and summer months when the beetle is active, nor within 100 feet of any elderberry shrub with VELB exit holes, at any time. Elderberry shrubs within 25 feet of any treatment area will be flagged by a DPR representative, and target plants within this range will be treated only in the presence of a DPR Environmental Scientist (biological monitor) using a method that will minimize potential herbicide drift. For work undertaken during bird nesting season (March 15-August 15) pre-treatment surveys and/or specific instructions will be provided by the DPR biologist. The project involves no ground-disturbance. The District Archaeologist will inform contractors and staff on measures to avoid or minimize impact to above-ground cultural resources such as mine tailings and drainage features.

Herbicide treatment "recommendations" will be obtained from a Certified Pest Control Advisor (CPCA), and the application of the herbicide(s) will be conducted under the direction of a Qualified Applicator. Treatment shall adhere to the detailed guidance and precautions provided by the CPCA. According to the recommendations, temperature and wind speed restrictions apply. The active ingredient in the herbicide is either Glyphosate, Imazaphr, and or Triclopyr. Where treatment occurs near water, appropriate mix and techniques will be used. Four treatments will be used depending time of year, location, and proximity to water: foliar application, basal bark, hack and squirt, or cut stump treatment. The first treatments will occur in the summer of 2006; follow-up maintenance treatments will occur in subsequent years. All required records on herbicide use will be filed with Sacramento, Placer, and El Dorado Counties.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Gold Fields District **EXEMPT**

STATUS: ☒ Categorical Exemption Class: 4 Section: 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:

Project consists of minor alteration in the condition of vegetation, which will not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees, included as a "resource management project" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities, in accordance with CCR §15300.4.

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Scott Nakaji, District Superintendent

Date